



Rocks

Syenite

Type:

Igneous; intrusive.

Texture/Appearance:

Massive; medium to coarse-grained, often changing to pegmatitic. Appears speckled with dark patches, sometimes porphyritic; may show flowage.

Color:

Pale, pink, red, gray or buff-colored.

Mineralogy/Chemistry:

Primarily K-feldspar and plagioclase, typically in a 2:1 to 3:1 ratio, with mafics (biotite and/or hornblende) contributing 10%-35% of the rock total. Quartz or feldspathoids may also be present in small amounts.

Occurrence/Use:

Syenites can occur as border facies in association with granitic intrusions (eg. Quincy Granite in Massachusetts and the Vermillion Granite in Minnesota), and less commonly as stocks by themselves. They are also found as small intrusives and pegmatites. Used as polished slabs in buildings and monuments.